



BUNNIES AND EGGS WILL TAKE OVER THE PARK IN APRIL!

Calling all youngsters! Get those baskets ready and prepare yourselves for Claude Moore Park's Annual Eggstravaganza and the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum's Bunny Bonanza.

This year's Eggstravaganza will be held on Wednesday, April 12 with a rain date of Thursday, April 13. This is a



nature-based event focusing on hands-on exhibits about reptiles, insects, and other animals that hatch from eggs. All exhibits, including Frogshackle Nature Center, will be open from 10 AM-12 PM.

But don't forget about the egg hunt! The park will host four hunts.

Two-year-olds will hunt, with help from their parents, at 10:15 AM. Three- and four-year-olds will hunt at 10:45 AM. Five- and six-year-olds will hunt at 11:15 AM, and seven- through ten-year-

olds will hunt at 11:45 AM. Only the two-year-olds will be accompanied by an adult; all other children will hunt on their own.

Space is limited for this program, so please register early and by the 4/11/06 deadline. The cost is \$5/child. All registered children will receive one free admission to the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum good on 4/12/06.

Once you're done exploring the hands-on exhibits and searching for eggs, head over to the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum for their Bunny Bonanza program. This spring program runs 10 AM-12 PM with visits from the 4-H Rabbit Club and Loudoun County Animal Control who will speak about animal care. If you miss this special event, feel free to stop in anytime on April 12 as the museum is open



10 AM-5 PM. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and \$3 for children ages 2-12. For more information on either program, contact the park at 703-444-1275 or the museum at 703-421-5322.

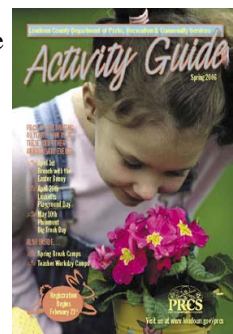
SPRING PROGRAMS AND SUMMER CAMPS INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Claude Moore Park is proud to announce that it has over 20 pre-school age programs, 5 elementary-age programs, and over a dozen family programs available this spring.

If you have a preschooler who loves nature, then we have the class for you. Be sure to check out our classes that allow you to explore nature with your

child; look for the park's Nature Buddies, Nature Adventurers, and Nature Explorers programs. Drop-off preschool classes are available as well; some themes for this spring include "Pouch Pals: 'Possums!," "Beavers On The Go!," "Ladybug, Ladybug," "Gaggles of Goslings," and "Blue Herons and Green Fish."

The park is also offering a wide array of summer camp programs to fit your schedule and your budget. Summer camp information will be distributed through the schools starting the week of 3/6 as well as online at www.loudoun.gov/prcs. The park is offering both history and nature camps for several different age groups.



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CLAUDE MOORE PARK

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Park Staff

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We're on the web!

Try: www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm

Meet Some Of Our Staff

You know all of those great programs and hikes that you attend? Well, someone has to put those together—line up the staff, schedule the dates, collect the supplies, advertise and promote the program, and much more. The administrative staff at the park carry out these tasks every day, plus manage trails, special events, and daily operation of the Visitor Center.

Merry Breed is our Assistant Park Manager. Merry works directly with the Park Manager on an overall maintenance plan, focusing specifically on trail maintenance and some building maintenance. She is responsible for overseeing the educational programming, working with the Friends of Claude Moore Park Advisory Board, and the Adopt-A-Trail Group volunteers. Merry became the Assistant Park Manager in August of 2000; prior to that, she also served as an instructor and volunteer.



Dodie Lewis is the Park Naturalist and has been with the park since June of 2000. Dodie is the key staff person responsible for the park's day-to-day educational programming, including the preschool classes, the elementary-age classes, and all those great family hikes and campfires. She works directly with all the Nature Instructors and focuses on the operation of and the displays within the Frogshackle Nature Center.

Esthela Gonzalez is one of our newest staff members. She started as the Park's Customer Service Assistant in June of 2005. She handles most of our customer interaction including all of your phone calls and the customers who drop by the Visitor Center. Esthela provides program support and manages the turtle care program and the rotating displays in the Interpretive Room at the Visitor Center.



We appreciate all that they do on a day-to-day basis, and hope you do too! If you enjoy the park's programs and trails, let us know!

SAVE THE DATES! Upcoming special events or programs that you don't want to miss!

Claude Moore Park has some special events and great programs coming up in the next few months.

Be sure to check out the dates for the Open Houses at both the Lanesville House and Frogshackle Nature Center.

The 1779 Lanesville Ordinary and Post Office, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was home to the Lane/Keene/Bridges family for 162 years and Dr. Claude Moore for 50 years. Following extensive research, volunteers



from The Friends of Claude Moore Park have just repainted the parlors with the historic colors used in those rooms. Drop by and enjoy a guided tour of the house. Open Houses are scheduled on the following dates/times, and pre-registration is NOT required for this FREE program:

Saturday, March 4, 10-11:30 AM; Saturday, April 1, 10-11:30 AM, Saturday, May 20, 10 AM-4 PM, Sunday, May 21, 12-4 PM (5/20 & 5/21 are in conjunction with Spring Farm Tour weekend), and Saturday, June 3, 10 AM-12 PM.

Frogshackle Nature Center also has several open house opportunities throughout the spring months. Run your fingers through a muskrat's fur. See a life-size fox. Make animal tracks in the sand. Explore our log cabin nature center and see and touch many fascinating objects. Children must be

accompanied by an adult. The nature center is showcasing a theme each month; this spring, the themes are as follows: March, "Wildflowers in the Woods," April, "Eggs," May, "Birds/Nests," and June, "Camouflage."

Open Houses are scheduled on the following dates/times, and pre-registration is NOT required for this FREE program: Thursday, March 16, 2:30-3 PM; Monday, April 10, 2:30-3:30 PM; Friday, April 14, 11 AM-12 PM; Thursday, April 20, 2:30-3:30 PM; Thursday, May 18, 2:30-3:30 PM; and Thursday, June 15, 11 AM-12 PM.



Spring Trail Clean-Up Day is just around the corner! Join Claude Moore Park during Keep Loudoun Beautiful Month as we clean-up the trails, conduct trail maintenance, maintain the flower gardens, and check all trail blazes and signage. Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 22 from 8 AM-12 PM. Wear work clothes, boots, and work gloves; you will get dirty. Water and a snack will be provided. Individuals and groups must pre-register by April 7 to volunteer for this event. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Lastly, gate closing times will change in March. The park's three gates will be closing at 6 PM starting, Monday, March 6. **For more information on any of these programs and events,, please contact the park at 703-444-1275.**

Civil War History Tours Available This Spring!

Claude Moore Park has teamed up with Historian Steve Meserve for some fabulous Civil War History Tours this spring. If you enjoy learning about different battles and the legendary leaders of this time period, then join Steve for one of his spring trips. See below for his trip descriptions, and contact the park for more information or to register.

CIVIL WAR: LEESBURG--ANTIETAM **Saturday, April 8, 9 AM-5 PM (361709-01)**

Follow the path of the Army of Northern Virginia on their 1862 Maryland Campaign. Stops will include the John Janney home in Leesburg, White's Ford, Point of Rocks, the Barbara Fritchie home in Frederick, Crampton's Gap and Turner's Gap on South Mountain and the Maryland Heights. Return by way of Harper's Ferry. **Register by 4/7/06.**



CIVIL WAR: EARLY'S MD RAID **Saturday, May 6, 9 AM-5 PM (361719-01)**

Follow Jubal Early's route on his Washington raid. Visit Round Hill, where Early's wagon train was attacked by the 21st NY and the 2nd Maryland Cavalry. Travel on past Harper's Ferry to Frederick for a tour of the Monocacy Battlefield, then on to Fort Stevens in Washington before returning. **Register by 5/5/06.**

CIVIL WAR: 8TH VA AT MANASSAS **Saturday, June 10, 9 AM-5 PM (361727-01)**

Follow the route the 8th Virginia Infantry took from Leesburg to the battle of First Manassas, possibly including a visit to Thoroughfare Gap. After touring the First Manassas Battlefield, step forward in time a year to explore the 8th Virginia at Second Manassas and visit the sites where they fought that action. Additional \$3 fee or National Park Service/Golden Eagle pass needed to enter Manassas Battlefield. Register by **6/9/06.**



All trips will depart from and return to the parking lot at the Claude Moore Park Visitor Center in Sterling, VA. Our street address is 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling, VA 20164. Please bring a bag lunch with you. All children must be accompanied by an adult, and the trips are recommended for people ages 12 and over. For more information, please contact Claude Moore Park at 703-444-1275.

Photos from around the park.



A beautiful morning in the park's southern woods.



Are they alive? These metal sculptures are located outside the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum.

Job Opportunities Available at the Park

Currently, spring and summer part-time employment is available!

FACILITY SUPERVISORS **(Recruitment #20-010)**

These are seasonal positions that provide supervision for participants and park users according to park and department rules and regulations. Supervisors oversee park openings and closings, use of fields and pavilions, monitoring vehicle use, providing building coverage including phones, and some customer service. Several shifts are available. Requirements include a high school diploma and first aid certification prior to beginning work. Hiring range: \$11.13-\$13.35/hr.

NATURE INSTRUCTORS **(No Recruitment #)**

These are part-time seasonal and/or part-time year-round positions that provide instruction for pre-school- and elementary-age participants. Subject matter includes nature (general), native flora and fauna, conservation, history (related to the park's history), and much more. Shifts include daytime hours during the week and some Saturdays and special events. Requirements include a high school diploma and any related educational experience or past work with young children/youth, as well as first aid certification prior to beginning work. Pay rate: varies based on experience.



For more information on Claude Moore Park, please visit our website at www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm or call 703-444-1275.

You can also find a job application at www.loudoun.gov; please complete it and return it to Loudoun County's Human Resources Department.